

TIPS TO CONSERVE WATER AND PROTECT OUR RIVERS



- ✓ **PRESERVE RIPARIAN ZONES AROUND STREAMS AND RIVERS**
THESE VEGETATED AREAS HELP TO NATURALLY CLEAN STORM WATER RUNOFF
- ✓ **PROPERLY HANDLE, STORE AND DISPOSE OF HOUSEHOLD CHEMICALS**
REMEMBER THAT YOUR DRINKING WATER LIKELY COMES FROM THE SAME WATER SYSTEM THAT WOULD BE CONTAMINATED BY CARELESSLY DISPOSED OF CHEMICALS
- ✓ **NEVER DISPOSE OF OIL OR OTHER WASTE DOWN A CATCH BASIN**
IT LEADS STRAIGHT TO THE LOCAL STREAMS AND CONTAMINATES THE WATERSHED
- ✓ **MINIMIZE THE APPLICATION OF FERTILIZER AND PESTICIDES ON YOUR LAWN OR GARDEN**
(MOST FOLKS ADD TOO MUCH FERTILIZER TO THEIR LAWNS)
- ✓ **NEVER ADD LAWN CHEMICALS ON DAYS WHEN IT PREDICTED TO RAIN IN THE NEXT 48 HOURS**
YOUR APPLICATION WILL JUST WASH AWAY...ENDING UP IN THE LOCAL WATERSHED
- ✓ **USE NATIVE PLANTS AND GRASSES FOR YOUR YARD THAT ARE SUITED FOR LOCAL RAINFALL**
THE RIGHT GRASS AND PLANTS CAN SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE THE NEED TO WATER YOUR YARD
- ✓ **TAKE THE TIME TO DISPOSE OF PAINTS AND CHEMICALS PROPERLY**
PUTTING THEM IN YOUR TRASH JUST SENDS THEM TO THE LOCAL LANDFILL WHERE THEY CAN LEAK OUT AND CONTAMINATE LOCAL WATERWAYS AND POURING SUCH PRODUCTS DOWN THE DRAIN IS ALSO LEADS TO CONTAMINATION OF THE LOCAL WATER RESOURCES
- ✓ **DIRECT DOWNSPOUTS AWAY FROM PAVED AREAS**
THIS ALLOWS THE SOIL TO ABSORB THE RAIN WATER AND REDUCE SURFACE WATER RUN OFF
- ✓ **USE A BROOM TO SWEEP YOUR PATIO OR DRIVEWAY...NOT THE GARDEN HOSE!**
THIS HELPS CONSERVE WATER AND REDUCE SURFACE WATER RUN OFF
- ✓ **COMPOST YOUR YARD WASTE**
LEAVES AND GRASS CLIPPINGS CAN CONTRIBUTE EXCESS NUTRIENTS TO LOCAL WATERWAYS
- ✓ **CHECK YOUR CAR FOR FLUID LEAKS**
MORE OIL LEAKS OUT OF CARS EVERY YEAR THAN WAS SPILLED BY THE EXXON VALDEZ OIL TANKER
- ✓ **INSPECT YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM REGULARLY**
MOST SEPTIC SYSTEMS ARE NOT MAINTAINED PROPERLY AND CAN CONTRIBUTE TO WATER QUALITY PROBLEMS
- ✓ **INSTALL LOW DEVICES ON SHOWER HEADS AND FAUCETS**
THIS WILL SAVE WATER AND REDUCE YOUR WATER HEATING BILL
- ✓ **CHECK FOR LEAKING FAUCETS**
A SINGLE LEAK CAN WASTE 5 GALLONS OF FRESH WATER A DAY
- ✓ **PICK UP AFTER YOUR PETS**
THESE "DEPOSITS" CAN CONTAMINATE LOCAL WATERWAYS
- ✓ **PICK UP A LITTLE TRASH WHEN YOU VISIT A PARK OR RIVER**
OTHERS WILL SEE YOUR ACTIONS AND PERHAPS HESITATE TO LITTER NEXT TIME. YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE...IMAGINE HOW MUCH YOU WILL HAVE PICKED UP OVER THE COURSE OF A YEAR!

